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WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT

The late meeting of the National Committee in Washington clearly demonstrates the trend of the public mind. A half dozen of its members, some impelled by "progressiveness" gone mad, and some insulted because Mr. Taft did not give them or some friend of theirs an office, made a great deal of noise only to find in the end that they were overwhelmed by the Taft sentiment. No President of this great Republic has ever given the country a better and a more enlightened administration than Mr. Taft, although when he came into office he faced a tremendous deficit, and in addition to Democratic opposition has been compelled to combat a baker's dozen of his own party in the Senate and a somewhat greater number in the House. Despite all, he has saved from corporate greed and for the people, millions of acres of the Public Domain and hundreds of valuable water rights. He has procured the enactment of the Portal Savings Bank law that will bring millions of dollars into circulation which have heretofore been privately hoarded away, and at the same time afford ample security to the depositors. He has conducted all our foreign affairs with marked dignity, signal ability, unflinching courage and consummate diplomacy. He stayed the hands of the great railroad corporations when they threatened to arbitrarily increase rates at the expense of the shipper. He signed the tariff bill, although he believed in a very few instances the rate was not properly adjusted, because of the fact that it contained so many hundreds of just provisions, knowing, too, that if not signed our deficit would largely increase, necessitating the issuance of Government bonds in order to maintain national credit. He recommended the passage of the corporation tax, which has added millions to the public revenues, and which, with tariff duties under the new bill, has turned a large deficit into a splendid surplus. He recommended the passage of laws affecting Interstate Commerce, which have given American shippers increased protection. He has notified Russia of the abrogation of the treaty under which our citizens have been denied their rights, and greatest of all, he has gone about the accomplishment of the peace of the whole world. Other notable measures have been adopted through his advice, and steps taken by him resulting in great national advancements and benefits too numerous to mention here.

The whole people regard him as just, level headed, conservative and wise.

He has so administered affairs that even his bitterest political enemy can not find a flaw in his armor or a spot on his character. The so-called "progressives" only wish to exploit themselves and not to accomplish the good which they claim they so much desire. At the called session, after having introduced a measure to change the duty on chemicals and metals, they voted against it, because the same measure introduced by a Democrat, obtained precedence over theirs, thus proving beyond doubt that self-glorification was their sole object. These gentlemen in the next republican National Convention will not be able to carry a half dozen States. No man is greater or better than his party, and the American people have set the seal of condemnation upon these professed reformers.

The Roosevelt boom died "a born-again". In justice to Mr. Roosevelt it should be remembered that time and again he has publicly and privately stated that he would under no circumstances allow his name

to be used as a candidate.

The "progressives" or rather we should say the "insurgents" after launching the boom for Mr. Roosevelt, became alarmed lest he would defeat Mr. LaFollette and could not defeat Mr. Taft, and went to work hastily to undo what little they had accomplished in that direction. If the nomination of Mr. Taft could be defeated we would have a repetition of the result of 1884, and the nominee would be defeated as Mr. Blaine was after triumphing over Mr. Arthur, who had given the American people a splendid administration.



PRESIDENT WILLIAM H. TAFT.

The only purpose of agitating the nomination of Roosevelt is to arrest the National trend toward Taft. Mr. Taft's enemies have gone to make the people believe that he not only can not be elected, but that he can not carry his own State, because in Ohio comparatively a handful of disappointed politicians, who make up in wind and noise what they lack in numbers and influence, pretend that he can not. To defeat Mr. Taft would be a tacit acknowledgment that his great administration has been a failure, and hence there would be no hope of electing his successor.

The elections in the fall of 1911 clearly demonstrate that the Democratic craze of 1910, when the Republicans were defeated because they sulked and remained at home, has not only subsided, but a strong and irresistible current is sweeping in the opposite direction. In Massachusetts, while Foss was reelected solely on account of his personal popularity, by a decreased majority, the Republican majority in the Legislature was largely augmented. In New York and New Jersey the Democratic majority in the Legislature was wiped out and a majority of Republicans elected. The results in Nebraska and Maryland were most gratifying, while New Mexico will elect two Republican U. S. Senators. In all these States the Republicans make the tariff the issue. They fully discussed the three tariff bills adopted at the call session and voted by Mr. Taft, as a result of a Democratic caucus without investigation, although they affected an investment of millions of dollars and the prosperity of ten millions of people. In Kentucky alone were the Democrats successful. Unfortunately, in that State, the tariff was pushed into the background and State issues almost entirely discussed. But even there if the more than forty thousand Republicans who remained at home had come out and voted, the Republican State ticket and a majority in the Legislature would have been elected.

Some of those who secretly oppose the President, openly pretend to be for him and constantly express regret because, they say, he can not

be elected if nominated. This cowardly conduct has its effect on the doubting Thomases throughout the country. If Mr. Taft can not be elected, who can be? If with all he has accomplished he can not win, who can win? And if he should be defeated for the nomination what would be the inevitable result?

In order, too, to accomplish his defeat it is stated that he is unfriendly to the soldiers and will veto the Sherwood Bill if passed. His whole official record and public utterances show that he is not only a friend of the old soldiers, but is imbued with the liveliest gratitude for their splendid services. These pretended friends of the soldiers would rejoice if he would veto the bill, in order that they might make political capital out of his action, however great the hardships that might accrue to the old soldiers.

Those who profess so much admiration for Mr. Roosevelt and condemn the President for appointing Democrats to the Supreme bench and in his Cabinet, have forgotten that Mr. Roosevelt was not over-particular in the construction of his Cabinet. He appointed many Democrats, notably Senator Blackburn, a bitter partisan Democrat, Governor of the Canal Zone. They do not remember that President Hayes appointed a Democrat in his Cabinet and others to different places, and that President Harrison appointed a Confederate soldier (Jackson) Judge of the Supreme Court. These same gentlemen who express so much righteous indignation by reason of Mr. Taft's appointment of Democrats as judges, notably so far as Kentucky is concerned, fail to remember that the late State Republican platform in Kentucky, which they heartily endorsed, demanded a non-partisan judiciary. There is a majority of judges on the Supreme bench who are Republicans, two of whom were appointed by Mr. Taft.

These criticisms are not honest—they are merely contemptible pretenses uttered by political hypocrites. There is no doubt that Mr. Taft will be nominated. There is as little that he will be elected. One thing is beyond all doubt true, and that is, that no other Republican can be elected.

Men's Club of M. E. Church Hold Meeting at Parsonage

From Knoxville Journal & Tribune
At a gathering of more than fifty men of First Methodist church, held Tuesday evening at the home of Dr. and Mrs. A. R. Lambert, on West Church avenue, a club was organized to be known as "The Men's Club of First Methodist Episcopal Church of Knoxville." By laws were adopted and officers elected as follows:
President—Henry C. Black.
Vice-President—R. L. Lottis.
Secretary and Treasurer—B. R. Stout.

The purpose of the new organization is to unite the men of the church and congregation into an effective force for work and social intercourse, the improvement and strengthening of the various departments of the church, and for the inauguration of movements looking to the constant improvement of the moral tone of the community. All men eighteen years of age or more, who are members of the church, or who are members of the congregation and consider First church their church home, may become members of the club.

The club will hold its meetings on the night of the fourth Tuesday in each month, in the Sunday-school rooms of the church, and eleven members will constitute a quorum at any meeting for the transaction of business.

A very pleasant evening was spent by the men last night at the home of their pastor and his wife.

CONGRESSMAN POWERS MAKING A FINE SHOWING IN CONGRESS

In the Omnibus War Claim Bill which recently passed the House of Representatives Congressman Powers was able to get through a dozen bills for people living in various parts of the Eleventh District. In fact he got more claims allowed than any other Congressman from Kentucky, although the House is Democratic and although nine out of the eleven Congressmen from Kentucky are Democrats.

The following claims were allowed by the House. It will be seen that some of these are good sized:

Valentine I. Brewer, Owensley Co.	\$469.90
Thos. P. Caldwell, Laurel Co.	89.83
N. S. Denny, heir of the estate of Thos. D. Denny, Wayne Co.	102.00
Sarah Ann Dobbs, widow of Nathaniel B. Dobbs, Pulaski Co.	152.25
Robert Hardwick, Pulaski Co.	980.00
Patrick Henry Bridgewater, Adair Co.	220.00
William B. Kelly, Clay Co.	50.00
Harriet M. Lair, Pulaski Co.	350.00
Ella J. Vermillion and others, children and heirs at law of Zachariah A. Morgan, Letcher Co.	52.60
Mary Speak, widow of Jessie C. Speak, Laurel Co.	36.60
Trustees of the Baptist Church of Somerset, Ky.	1500.00
Trustees of the Presbyterian Church at Somerset, Ky.	550.00

Mr. Powers is to be congratulated in being able to have these claims allowed some fifty years after they were justly due.

Roosevelt Club Organized

Last Monday evening a mass meeting was called at the court house for the purpose of organizing a Roosevelt Club of Knox County.

The meeting was called to order by chairman W. R. Lay and speeches made by the different members of the club, and a committee appointed to draft resolutions. After the resolutions were drawn up they were then circulated for signers and they claim to have several names on the list.

It also is reported that a caucus was held after the adjournment of the meeting and a slate adopted for the next county officers' election, consisting of the offices of county judge, sheriff, jailer and county attorney. This last was supposed to be kept a profound secret but it appears that one of the officers selected became dissatisfied with some of the arrangements and let the cat out of the bag. This last development seems to indicate that the Roosevelt movement in Knox County is more for the purpose of the getting in the band wagon of a few office seekers who seek to ride the popularity of some one else, than on account of the professed great admiration for Roosevelt.

The Coming of the "Talking Picture"

Looming up on the horizon, a still greater menace to the old-time stage and its people, there appears the so-called "talking picture," a synchronization of the cinematograph and the phonograph, in which electrical science plays an important part. Already in London and Paris the talking pictures are a craze. So promising have been these reproductions of plays and operas that two of our most prominent producers, Charles Frohman and Henry W. Savage, compered for the American rights. "Quo Vadis" has been "photoplayed" with special

parts taken by the phonograph while "Pinafore," "The Mikado," and the "Chimes of Normandy" have also been produced on the screen, their tuneful strains proceeding from the "canned orchestra." A more ambitious and promising scheme, however, seems to be that undertaken by the New York Philharmonic Society, with the collaboration of President J. Stuart Blackton, of the Vitagraph Company. This will be no less than the production of the famous operas, the actions and scenes appearing in moving-pictures, while the classic music of the composers is rendered by good orchestras. This will be tried out in some of the large cities first, and if successful, may well lead to the popularization of the best works of the masters, and the general enjoyment of what is now for many thousands an unattainable luxury.

Thomas Alva Edison has also turned his inventive genius in the direction of a mechanical theater. The "Wizard of Menlo Park" has announced, simultaneously with this writing, the completion of the "Edison speaking pictures." Very recently, too, Mr. Edison uttered the prophecy that within a very short time the workingman will be able, by laying down his dime at the modern theater of cinematography, to enjoy grand opera and dramatic productions, with sound, dialogue, color, and action, all scientifically produced,—a complete conquest, apparently, by science, of the art of musical and dramatic entertainment.—From "The Moving Picture Show and the Living Drama," by Robert Gran, in the American Review of Reviews for March.

New Chief of Police

Last Saturday evening the city council met to select a chief-of-police to succeed Geo. Finsley, who resigned that position last week. John Bowman was elected as his successor by a vote of 3 to 2 and Bert Catron elected as deputy.

The United States Government has designated the FIRST NATIONAL BANK of Barbourville as one of the depositories of its funds.

Your Uncle Sam knows the best and safest banks. This action on the part of the Government ought to appeal to the man or woman who thinks, and who is looking for a strong, safe and prosperous bank in which to place his money.
We want you to do business with us.
We guarantee absolute safety and pay interest on time deposits.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK
BARBOURVILLE, KENTUCKY

Another Mountain Boy Making Good

The following article appeared in the Spokane, Washington Review in a recent issue:

"W. C. Pitman, the famous strike-out pitcher will report to manager Cohen at Walla Walla on March 15. From all reports he is the best pitcher that has ever come to the Yakima Valley, and manager Cohen is to be congratulated on grabbing this youngster when both Vancouver, B. C. and Portland, Oregon were after him."

The many friends of "Billie" will be glad to hear of his signing up with a team which sent eight men to the big league last year, and there is no question but that if given a proper chance he will be the most valuable man on their pitching staff the coming season. He is a London boy who went west two years ago and by his wonderful pitching has attracted the attention of all the baseball men on the coast. He will be remembered in this city as the boy who struck out sixteen men when pitching for the B. B. I. team against U. C. in the spring of 1909 during the intense rivalry between these teams that season.

Taft Club Organized

London, Ky., March 12—Friends of President Taft organized a club here today and elected B. F. Johnson president, W. B. Catching vice-president and deputy sheriff Herman Scoville secretary. Speeches were made by Circuit Judge William Lewis and Col. R. L. Ewell. The Court-room was filled. About one hundred names have been enrolled. Secretary Scoville is a brother of sheriff W. N. Scoville, secretary of the Roosevelt club. The club will meet again Monday.

Doing Away With Litigation In the Anthracite Region

Public men have had much to say in recent years about the law's delay, the difficulty of obtaining a simple and rapid settlement of disputes in the courts. It is this fault of regular legal procedure that the mediators in the hard coal region seek first to avoid. It is their policy to discourage litigation, not to prolong it. Always they endeavor to persuade the opposing parties to adjust their differences without resort to a formal argument. By exerting their personal influence, urging one concession here and another there, the members of the Conciliation Board have again and again brought about a compromise. It is this spirit that has justified the word "conciliation" in the title of their body.

It was not with the idea of meddling with all the small details of mining that the strike commission created the permanent tribunal. The board is a court of last resort. If a group of mine workers have anything to complain of, the matter is first laid before their foreman. If he does not grant their demands the higher officers of the company are appealed to; and only after this fails does the case "go to court." Similarly, if the employer desires to lodge any complaint against his men, he attempts to get satisfaction first by dealing directly with them.—American Review of Reviews for March.

Barber Shop Improved

K. F. Davis, the popular barber who sold out his interest in the barber shop in the Jones Building has repurchased and the firm will again be known as Davis and Disney. Since again becoming connected with it, they have installed better lights and made improvements generally.